

J. WILLARD MARRIOTT LIBRARY

Inspiring the Creation, Discovery, and Use of Knowledge for Utah and the World

Self-Guided Tour of the J. Willard Marriott Library Introduction/History

The J. Willard Marriott Library is the flagship academic library for the Utah State System of Higher Education and the largest state-funded academic library in the six-state region of Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. As the primary service hub and destination for students, the Marriott Library is integral to the teaching, research, and public life missions of the University of Utah. The library's mission is to inspire the creation, discovery, and use of knowledge for Utah and the world.

The library serves more than 30,000 students at the University of Utah, approximately 20,000 faculty and staff, and researchers from throughout the world. Library holdings include 3 million volumes and nearly 200 unique digital collections containing photographs, maps, books, audio recordings, newspaper articles, and other items. Important collections span Utah, the Mormons, and the West to extensive science, engineering, medical, and legal archives. The library also holds more than 1 million historical photographs and extensive film collections.

The University of Utah Library was constructed and opened in 1968. At that time, the library housed approximately 1 million volumes and provided seating for 3,000 students. The building was dedicated on May 18, 1968 with an address by Wallace Stegner, a distinguished alumnus and former professor of the University of Utah, who was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1972. The library holds Stegner's personal papers.

In 1969, the University Library was named in honor of J. Willard Marriott, Sr., who contributed \$1 million for library collections, which was the largest single gift the University had received at that time. J. Willard and his wife, Alice Sheets Marriott, were alumni of the University. Mr. Marriott delivered a brief speech to rededicate the building on August 16, 1969.

In 1996, the Marriott Library was expanded from 278,000 square feet to 488,000 square feet. The building was again rededicated on October 2, 1996 by keynote speaker, Dr. Karen R. Lawrence, who was then a professor of English at the University, and who became president of Sarah Lawrence College in 2007.

In 2000, the Marriott Library commenced the multimillion dollar Renovation-Innovation Capital Campaign to fund major building-wide renovations, including bringing the building up to seismic code. Renovation began June 1, 2005 and concluded June 30, 2009. The building remained open to patrons throughout the entire project. The 2009 renovation increased interior space within the library to nearly 517,000 square feet.

A rededication ceremony for the renovated Marriott Library was held October 26, 2009. The program included a keynote address by Former First Lady Laura W. Bush and comments by J. Willard Marriott, Jr., Chairman and CEO of Marriott International.



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This guide is intended to be used as a walking tour of the J. Willard Marriott Library. Please note that areas marked with an asterisk () have limited or no public access. If you have any questions while walking through the building, please feel free to ask for assistance at any of the library's service points.*

Level 1 (West Entrance)

Circulation Desk: Library materials can be checked out and returned at this service point.

Gould Auditorium*: The William R. and Eryn J. Gould Auditorium was named in honor of the Gould family, who also established the annual Gould Lecture on Technology and the Quality of Life. A number of public lectures and other events are held in the auditorium throughout the year.

Digital Scholarship Lab: The Digital Scholarship Lab and the Technology Assisted Curriculum Center (TACC) help faculty and students integrate advanced digital technology into their research and teaching. The lab includes an audio recording studio and a video recording studio.

Mom's Café: Mom's Café was made possible by a generous gift from Ira and Mary Lou Fulton. The café is named in honor of Mr. Fulton's mother, Myrtle Lee Markwell Fulton, known as Myrtie. In the early part of the 20th century, Myrtie opened a very simple hamburger stand in her front yard in Mesa, Arizona to support herself and her children. Mom's Café represents the library's role on campus to support student life, as well as academic study.

Study Alcoves: These booth-type seating areas provide optimal study spaces for students. They are located within the library's food zone and include a number of outlets where students can recharge laptops, cell phones, and other personal electronic devices. Two Study Alcoves have been named by generous gifts from John H. Quinn and Union Pacific.

Classrooms: The library has 20 classrooms and 12 meeting rooms, most of which are technology-equipped. Classrooms are used for workshops and labs taught by librarians and for classes offered by nearly every college at the University.

Stacks: The Marriott Library holds approximately 3 million volumes. Journals are now in the ARC or online, but patrons can still browse most circulating books on the library's 29 miles of shelving on levels one and two.

Public Art: Many of the notable and valuable pieces of art in the library's permanent collection are labeled with QR codes. QR codes can be scanned by a mobile device using a QR code reader. When you scan one of these QR codes, you'll be able to view a Web page with a description and history of the artwork.



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Level 2

Knowledge Commons: The Knowledge Commons represents the new service model for 21st century academic libraries. It combines traditional library reference services with access to computer hardware, software, and technical support. The Knowledge Commons provides 250 computer stations and approximately 350 software packages and houses the multimedia collection. This space makes it possible for students to utilize the library's technology resources, collections, and research services in one central location. The Knowledge Commons has a raised floor to allow for easy reconfiguration of computer workstations without expensive renovation or rewiring. This is one example of how the library is flexible in responding to student needs.

Small Group Study Rooms: The Knowledge Commons includes small group study rooms designed for collaborative and individual use. These rooms are provided on a first-come, first-served basis; they are not formally reserved.

Automated Retrieval Center*: The Automated Retrieval Center (ARC) is three-and-a-half stories high and has a 2 million item capacity. Currently, the ARC houses more than 1 million items (including half of the government documents collection, many special collections items, theses and dissertations, the original Dewey collection, audio-visual materials, microfiche, and bound journals). It takes 10-15 minutes to retrieve items from the ARC. Patrons can request items directly from our online catalog and pick them up at a service point on level two. Most items are stored in the ARC by bar code and are organized by size and space available (not by subject or call number). In addition to the ARC's benefits of improved preservation and access, it also has economic benefits for the library. Storing items in the ARC is four times more cost effective than traditional shelving.

Campus Services: In order to better serve students, the library collaborates with other campus departments. Academic Advising (on level two across from the ARC), the MUSE program (near the maps collection on level one), and the Writing Center (across from Reserve/Cashier) have satellite offices in the library where they can be easily accessible to students.

Katherine W. Dumke Fine Arts & Architecture Library: The Dumke Library includes collection materials for visual arts, music and performing arts, film, and architecture and planning. This space was made possible by a major gift from The Katherine W. and Ezekiel R. Dumke, Jr. Foundation.

Reserve/Cashier (Espresso Book Machine): The Reserve/Casher Desk is where patrons can pick up materials requested from the Automated Retrieval Center (ARC), faculty course reserves, Interlibrary Loan (ILL), and the pull service. Also at this location are the Espresso Book Machine, which prints out-of-copyright and self-published books in minutes, the NewspaperDirect service, a source for on-demand issues of foreign language newspapers, and the Library Store, offering a wide selection of student-oriented products and services. Members of the general public may purchase library permits at this counter.



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Level 3 (East/Plaza Entrance)

Paul Housberg Public Art (Grand Staircase): Artist Paul Housberg was commissioned to design the public art installation for the Grand Staircase. It's called *Another Beautiful Day Has Dawned Upon Us*. The colored glass slats include excerpts from pioneer diaries held by the Marriott Library's Manuscripts Division. The art installation also functions as a ventilation system for the library; in the case of fire, large fans are activated that push smoke from the building, which allows the grand staircase to be used as an emergency egress.

Circulation Desk: Library materials can be checked out and returned at this service point.

The Atrium: The Atrium was part of the design of the 1968 building and is intended to serve as our students' living room. Furniture in the atrium is functional and comfortable. Our architectural team attempted to preserve the 1960s interior design of the original building.

Suikang Zhao Public Art: *Rainbow Wisdom* (installed in The Atrium) is the sculpture commissioned by the Utah Arts Council and created by artist Suikang Zhao. The medium is acrylic and stainless steel. Native American text is embedded in a variety of languages to convey the artist's view that this piece is universal:

*The soul would have no rainbow if the eye had no tears
When you die, you will be spoken of as those in the sky, like the stars.
We are from Mother Earth and we are going back to Mother Earth,
To touch the earth is to have harmony with nature.*

The book sculptures found throughout the interior and exterior of the library were also created by Suikang Zhao. They make up a multi-part sculpture called *Knowledge Exile*. Pieces are made of bronze, resin, glass, stone, and mixed media. Some are replicas of rare books in the library's collection.

Aziz S. Atiya Middle East Library: The Aziz S. Atiya Middle East Library (in The Atrium) is the fifth largest Middle East library in North America and the largest collection of its kind in the Western United States. The Middle East Collection serves the research needs of the University's Middle East Center. Circulating materials in this collection are located on level three and rare items are held in the Special Collections vault on level four. The collection was made possible by the late Dr. Aziz S. Atiya, an Egyptian citizen, Middle East scholar, and former resident of Salt Lake City.

The George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Grand Reading Room: The George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Grand Reading Room provides traditional quiet space for study and reflection. All of the custom-made tables within this room are wired for electronic devices. The room opens onto the Rooftop Garden. The Grand Reading Room offers a stunning view of the Oquirrh Mountains and demonstrates the success of renovation in bringing natural light and the surrounding landscape into the building. Prior to renovation, the building was encased in wide concrete slabs, which let in little light and concealed



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exterior views. The Grand Reading Room was made possible by a major gift from the George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation, the largest family foundation in the state of Utah and one of the most generous donors to the University of Utah.

The Malby Globes: Located in the Grand Reading Room, the Malby Globes were manufactured in England by John Addison and Malby & Co. between the years 1845 and 1851. Besides the pair in the library, only six other globes of this type are known to exist (three in the United States and three in England). This pair was purchased in England by Franklin D. Richards, an apostle of the LDS Church, and brought to Utah where they were paraded through the streets of Salt Lake City by oxcart. The globes were one of the earliest gifts to the University of Utah. After many years of heavy use, they were refurbished by the Marriott Library in 2009.

Rooftop Garden*: The Grand Reading Room opens onto the Rooftop Garden, which is not a publicly-accessible space. The Rooftop Garden provides a protective membrane over the Automated Retrieval Center and brings greenery to level three. The Rooftop Garden was made possible by a major gift from an anonymous donor.

Renovation Donor Wall: The cost of renovation—\$79 million in total—was funded by the State of Utah (\$49 million), private contributors (\$20 million), the University of Utah (\$7 million), and the Federal Emergency Management Administration (\$3 million). The Marriott Library created a donor wall to recognize private donors to the renovation.

Marriott Family Tribute Plaque: In 1969, the University Library was named in honor of J. Willard Marriott, Sr., who contributed \$1 million for library collections. J. Willard and his wife, Alice Sheets Marriott, were alumni of the University. This plaque honors the longstanding generosity of the Marriott family, which has helped build world-class library facilities and collections at the U. of U.

Browsing Collection: In a research library with 3 million volumes, recreational reading can be hard to find. This collection narrows the search for patrons—and excludes textbooks! Note the “Womb Chairs” in this area (and many other areas throughout the library). With their flat arms that are perfect for balancing a book or laptop, they offer a comfortable place for reading or computing. These chairs and other public furniture in the library were tested and selected by students.

Level 4

Special Collections Gallery: The Special Collections Gallery features rare and unique library collections, showcases Book Arts Program student work and Red Butte Press fine press productions, and hosts special exhibitions by local and national partners.

Book Arts Studio and Red Butte Press*: The library’s Book Arts Program is a highly successful education and outreach program that serves K-12 students, educators, university students, and academic researchers. The Book Arts Program promotes an appreciation of the art and history of the



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handmade book by offering presentations, classes, workshops, intensives, lectures, exhibitions, and community service. Students learn how to print and bind their own books using traditional and modern techniques. The Book Arts Studio houses teaching space, as well as the Red Butte Press, which produces limited run, fine press books. A recent example of the work of the Red Butte Press is a Wallace Stegner fine press book, *To A Young Writer*, created to commemorate the 2009 anniversary of what would have been Stegner's 100th birthday.

Marriner S. Eccles Library of Political Economy*: This room houses the Marriner S. Eccles Library of Political Economy and includes scholarly books and manuscripts on banking, political, and economic history, highlighting the late Mr. Eccles's career as a banker and chairman of the Federal Reserve System's Board of Governors. The physical space and collection materials were made possible by a gift from the Marriner S. Eccles Foundation.

George S. Eccles Special Collections Reading Room: Our Special Collections Department collects, preserves, and provides access to rare and one-of-a-kind primary source materials. Special Collections includes University Archives and Records Management, the Manuscripts Division, the Middle East Library, Multimedia Archives, Rare Books, and Western Americana. Examples of items held by Special Collections include the papers of Wallace Stegner, the Arabic Paper, Parchment, and Papyrus Collection (which is the largest of its kind in North America), original diaries of Utah pioneers and leaders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and centuries-old illuminated manuscripts. Researchers who come to the library to interact with these items, do so in the Special Collections Reading Room.

Tanner Alcove: This quiet study nook was created to honor a major gift from the O.C. Tanner Company. The generous gift from the O.C. Tanner Company named our Western Americana collection after Annie Clark Tanner, mother of Obert Tanner, businessman and scholar.

Level 5

University of Utah Press: In 2005, the University of Utah Press became a department of the library. In 2009 Press staff moved into their new space within the building. The Press publishes and disseminates scholarly books in selected fields, as well as other printed and recorded materials of significance to Utah, the region, the country, and the world.

Administration Suite: Housed in the Administration Suite are most members of library's Executive Council and departments including Human Resources and External Relations.

Portrait of J. Willard Marriott, Sr.: This portrait of J. Willard Marriott, Sr. was painted by Alvin Gittens, who served as chair of the University of Utah Art Department from 1956 until 1962. Gittens' work includes portraits of 89 administrators, professors, and benefactors of the U of U. His portraits hang in almost every campus building.



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Portrait of Haile Selassie I: Another piece by Alvin Gittens, this portrait of Haile Selassie I, the Emperor of Ethiopia from 1930 to 1974, was painted in 1970.

IT Services*: The Marriott Library's online presence has become increasingly important in providing access to collections and services. The library's Digital Technologies Division hosts more than 100 unique digital collections containing photographs, maps, books, audio recordings, and other items. These collections are freely accessible via the Web to a global audience.

Preservation*: The Marriott Library boasts the most sophisticated conservation laboratory within the state and provides outreach, disaster response, preservation education, and some conservation services to institutions within the region.



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